



Battleground Rail Trail Update

October 2004

Battleground Rail Trail on Track!

The Battleground Rail Trail is one of the bond projects approved by Greensboro voters in 2000. The trail is also a recipient of Federal Enhancement Funds awarded by the North Carolina Department of Transportation Bike and Pedestrian Division. Numerous public meetings were held during the planning phase of this project. As the result of citizen input and the availability of additional Federal funds, a Cone Boulevard underpass has been officially added to the project. Details of the trail's design and current project schedule are contained within this newsletter.

The Trail will be a high-quality alternative transportation facility and community amenity by providing a safe and enjoyable option for its users to access area businesses and other community amenities. The first section of the Rail Trail will roughly follow the historical location of the Norfolk Southern railroad tracks parallel to Battleground Avenue, beginning at Pisgah Church Road (where the Lake Brandt Greenway currently terminates) and ending near the Lawndale Crossing Shopping Center at Markland Drive. The current project is a 1.1 mile piece of a trail that will one day continue southward and connect to downtown Greensboro. Trail users will be able to safely walk, bicycle or jog to Jaycee Park, Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, Bur-Mil Park and into Summerfield.

The trail will provide the highest degree of safety, convenience and access, and will effectively serve

as a pedestrian and bicycle thoroughway. The trail will be fenced and landscaped where appropriate near adjacent neighborhoods to provide a beneficial buffer to reduce the impact of noise and lights from the businesses along Battleground Avenue.



Computer generated rendering.

Trail Underpass Established!

Battleground Rail Trail construction plans are being revised to include an underpass at Cone Boulevard and remove the previously planned at-grade crossing. This will enhance safety and mobility for future trail users. Since the start of planning for this project, the public has expressed the desire and need for an underpass. The design of the underpass is expected to be complete this Fall.



Actual Design to vary.

Additional Federal transportation funds have been allocated to the project by the Greensboro Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and NCDOT. Both agencies recognize the long-term value that this project will add to the community and the area's transportation system. The MPO has also included the trail in its recently adopted 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan.

Project Status and Schedule

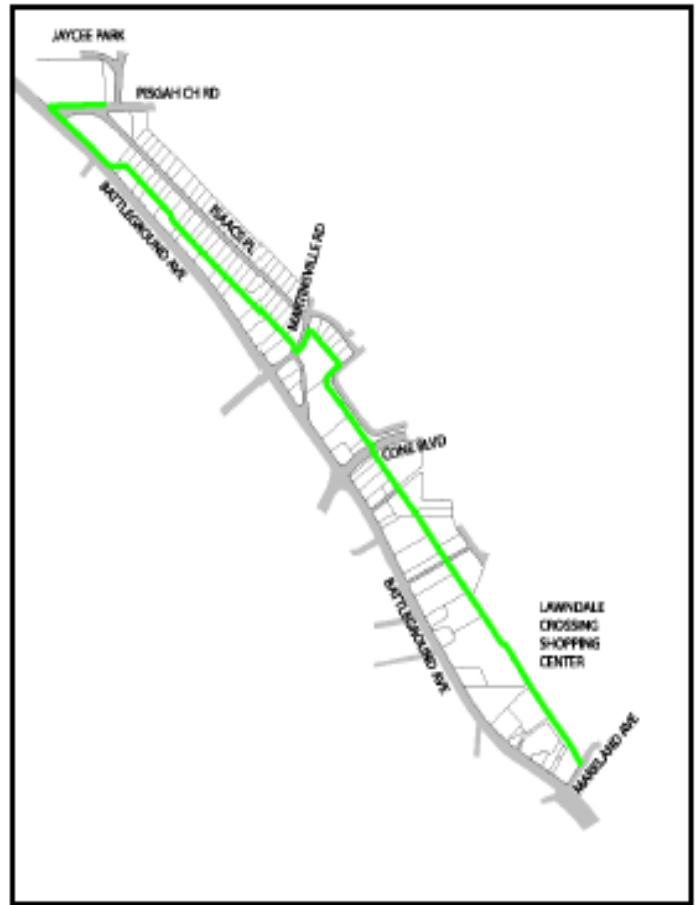
The Trail construction plans for Section 1 (Pisgah Church Road to Markland Drive) are complete, except for the underpass. Property drawings and descriptions are being prepared in order to begin the easement / property acquisition process by December 2004.

The construction plans, property drawings and property descriptions for the grade separation are expected to be complete by January 2005.

The property / easement acquisition process is expected to be complete in late 2005.

Construction of Section 1 is expected to begin in 2006 with completion in 2007.

The exact location, design and schedule of the future extension of the trail to downtown Greensboro (Markland Drive to Spring Garden Street) has not been determined. The preliminary design and public involvement phase schedule will be determined once a schedule for the termination of Norfolk Southern service on the remaining existing line has been established.



Selected trail location for Section 1.



Need More Information

Contact:
Craig McKinney, Transportation Planner
E-mail: craig.mckinney@greensboro-nc.gov

Greensboro Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 3136
Greensboro, NC 27402-3136
(336) 373-4184